

From: John Moon
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 11:38pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I recently learned the federal government and Microsoft settled their antitrust lawsuit. As the CTO of a custom software applications firm utilizing Microsoft technology, I would like to express my satisfaction with the settlement of this matter out of court.

Continued litigation on this matter would not be productive and would only serve to make the lawyers rich at the expense of innovation, among other things. That is why Microsoft wants to settle - not to mention it has been forced to spend untold millions on defending itself for the past three years.

Settling this lawsuit will lift the cloud of apprehension and nervousness that has plagued many tech firms since its inception. The positive affects of settling this matter are quite clear. It will enable my company to continue designing custom applications without the headache of triple-sourcing which is what a Microsoft breakup would have caused. This may sound like a minor thing, however, it is not. It would be an inefficient administrative nightmare that would affect the performance of the company.

It is my hope that the settlement is finalized at the conclusion of the public comment period. It is in everyone's best interest.

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